IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

Disclosed is a [[A]] feed forward clock and data recovery unit for recovering a received serial data bit stream having a feed forward phase tracking unit ~~means~~ for tracking of a sampling time to the center of a unit interval ~~(UI)~~ of the received data bit stream. ~~,~~ ~~wherein the~~ The feed forward phase tracking unit can include a ~~means comprises:~~ sampling phase generation unit, ~~means for generating equidistant sample phase signals which are output with a predetermined granularity;~~ an oversampling unit, ~~(OSU) for oversampling the received data bit stream with the sample phase signals according to a predetermined oversampling rate (OSR);~~ a serial-to-parallel-conversion unit, ~~which converts the oversampled data stream into a deserialized data stream with a predetermined decimation factor (DF);~~ a binary phase detection unit, ~~(BPD) for detecting an average phase difference (AVG-PH) between the received serial data bit stream and the sample phase signal by adjusting a phase detector gain (PDG) depending on the actual data density (DD) of the deserialized data stream such that the variation of the average phase detection gain (PDG) is minimized; and~~ a loop filter, ~~for tracking of small phase offset of the detected average phase signal (AVG-PH) around an ideal sampling time at the center of the unit interval (UI) to generate a fine track control signal;~~ a finite state machine, ~~(FSM) which detects whether the average phase signal has exceeded at least one predetermined phase threshold value and which generates a corresponding coarse shift control signal;~~ a binary rotator, and a

~~which rotates the deserialized data bit stream in response to the coarse shift control signal and in response to the fine track control signal;~~ data recognition unit ~~means (DRM)~~ for recovery of the received data stream which includes a number of parallel data recognition FIR-Filters. Further, ~~wherein~~ each data recognition FIR-Filter can include ~~comprises:~~ a weighting unit for weighting data samples of the deserialized data stream, ~~which has been adjusted to the ideal sampling time by the binary rotator;~~ a summing unit for summing up the weighted data samples, [[;]] and a comparator unit for comparing the summed up data samples with a threshold value ~~to detect the logic value of a data bit within the received serial data bit stream~~.

~~(Figure 4)~~